

# Buy In (Medicare Savings Program)

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## Guidelines to providers how to apply for Buy-In (also known as the Medicare Savings Program)

**Policy:** Medicaid Provider Manual, Chapter Coordination of Benefits, Section 2.6.E. Medicare Buy-In/Medicare Savings Program.

If a Medicaid beneficiary is eligible for Medicare but has not enrolled they may apply at the Social Security Administration (SSA) Offices at any time and will not suffer a penalty. Medicaid cannot process a buy-in request until the beneficiary applies for Medicare and the SSA is aware that the applicant is Medicaid eligible. The beneficiary must also apply for the Medicare Savings Program through his local county MDHHS office.

**Process:** Providers may call 800-292-2550 or send an email to [ProviderSupport@Michigan.Gov](mailto:ProviderSupport@Michigan.Gov) to initiate a Buy-In request.

This is a list of the necessary information that needs to be included with a Buy-In request:

- Beneficiary's name, date of birth, and Medicaid identification (ID) number
- Health insurance claim number (HICN);
- Inpatient hospital admission date; and (Buy-In may be requested 2 years retroactively).
- Hospital name, address, and provider NPI number

Our Customer Service Representative will write up a service request (SR) so we can track the issue. The SR will be sent internally to the Buy-In Unit. The Buy-In worker will review and research the case for possible action and will put notes within the SR. A normal Buy-In request is worked in 20 days and the SR is closed. A normal Buy-In purchase made by MDHHS takes approximately 120 days before available eligibility systems will show Medicare coverage.

To status your Buy-In request you are welcome to contact us with the SR number provided 20 days after your initial request has been made.

**ALIENS:** The Buy-In unit will accept leads from providers about Alien Status in relation to Medicare eligibility. Alien status can be verified by: \* Alien Registration Receipt Card (I-551) OR \*I-94 form stamped "Processed for I-551", "Cuban/Haitian Entrant (Status Pending)", OR "parole", "212(d)(5)", or "Form I-589 Filed" \*I-94 form indicating admission into the United States from Cuba or Haiti and letter or notice from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) indicating ongoing (not final) deportation, exclusion or removal proceedings OR \*Passport stamped "Processed for I-551 Temporary Evidence of Lawful Admission for Permanent Residence".